# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2882
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016
Medical Visas
Singh Shri Hukum

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether waiting period for grant of M-Visas is long and physical presence of patients is required at embassies and there are restrictions on multiple-entry of medical visas and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government issues any advisory at the time of granting a medical visa not to carry cash and cash transfers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which such advisory will be issued?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) Our Missions and Posts abroad normally issue Medical Visas within 72 hours. In cases of emergency, Medical Visas are issued on the same day. Our Missions/Posts do not insist on physical appearance/presence of the patients, especially those with medical conditions. There are no restrictions on issuance of multiple-entry Medical Visas to applicants and as such most of our Missions/Posts issue multiple-entry Medical Visas to the applicants.

(b) & (c) There are no advisories issued by the Government regarding issue of Medical Visas. As per extant instructions, Medical Visa is granted to a foreigner whose sole purpose is to seek medical treatment in established/recognized/specialized Hospitals/Treatment Centers in India. One of the conditions prescribed for grant of Medical Visa is that the foreigner should be a person of assured financial standing. The production of a return ticket and availability of sufficient money to spend during his or her stay in India including the expenses of medical treatment is normally considered sufficient for this purpose. There are certain Customs Regulations with regard to foreign exchange/currency that can be brought into India. Apart from this, our High Commission in Islamabad issues a printed advisory (in English as well as Urdu) to all visa applicants, including Medical Visas, which mentions that it is illegal to carry Indian currency while entering India.